

### **REMARKS**

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 42-45 and 56-59 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,931,232 (hereinafter "Wolcott"); and objects to claim 46 as allegedly being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

Initially, Applicant notes, with appreciation, the indication that claims 14-22, 35-41, and 47-55 are allowed and that claim 46 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

By way of this Amendment, Applicant proposes amending claim 42 to improve form and canceling claims 43-46 without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added. Claims 14-22, 35-42 and 47-55 will be pending in this application upon entry of the Amendment. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

While not concurring with the rejection, but to expedite prosecution, independent claim 42 is amended to incorporate features formerly recited claim 46 (and intervening claims 43-45), which was indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Therefore, claim 42, as amended, is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claim 42 is respectfully requested.

### **CONCLUSION**

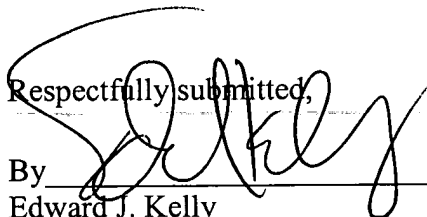
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's reconsideration of this application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims. The applicant respectfully requests that the present amendment be entered because the present amendment places the application in immediate condition for allowance.

As Applicant's remarks with respect to the Examiner's rejections are sufficient to overcome these rejections, Applicant's silence as to assertions by the Examiner in the Office Action or certain requirements that may be applicable to such rejections (e.g., whether a reference constitutes prior art, motivation to combine references, assertions as to dependent claims, etc.) is not a concession by Applicant that such assertions are accurate or such requirements have been met, and Applicant reserves the right to analyze and dispute such assertions/requirements in the future.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-1945, under Order No. BBNT-P01-090 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

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